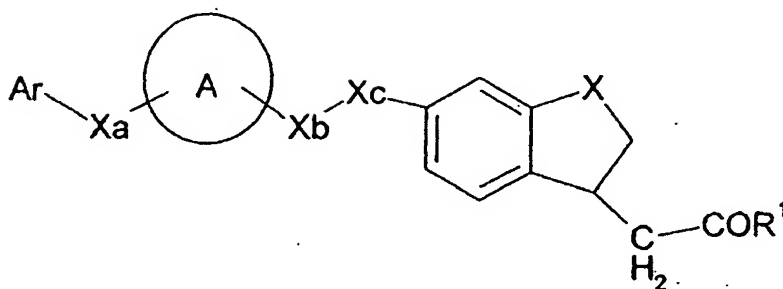


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ar is cyclopropyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, benzo[b]thienyl, indolyl or indanyl, each of which optionally is substituted by 1 to 5 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of

(1) halogen atom;

(2) hydroxy group;

(3) amino group;

(4) nitro group;

(5) cyano group;

(6) optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

(7) optionally substituted C₂₋₆ alkenyl group;

(8) optionally substituted C₂₋₆ alkynyl group;

(9) C₆₋₁₄ aryl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-amino group, C₆₋₁₄ aryl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy-C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfamoyl group;

(10) C₆₋₁₄ aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally

halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-amino group, C₆₋₁₄ aryl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy-C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfamoyl group;

(11) C₇₋₁₆ aralkyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-amino group, C₆₋₁₄ aryl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy-C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfamoyl group;

(12) heterocyclic group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-amino group, C₆₋₁₄ aryl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy-C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfamoyl group;

(13) mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-amino group;

(14) mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group;

(15) mono- or di-C₇₋₁₆ aralkyl-amino group;

(16) N-C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-amino group;

(17) N-C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₇₋₁₆ aralkyl-amino group;

(18) C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group;

(19) optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkoxy group;

(20) C₁₋₆ alkylthio group;

- (21) C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group;
- (22) C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group;
- (23) optionally esterified carboxyl group;
- (24) C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl group;
- (25) C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl-carbonyl group;
- (26) C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbonyl group;
- (27) carbamoyl group;
- (28) thiocarbamoyl group;
- (29) mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl group;
- (30) mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbamoyl group;
- (31) mono- or di-5- to 7-membered heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group;
- (32) sulfamoyl group;
- (33) mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfamoyl group; and
- (34) mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfamoyl group;

ring A is benzene, ~~which optionally has 1 to 5 substituent(s) at substitutable position(s) selected from~~

- ~~(1) halogen atom;~~
- ~~(2) hydroxy group;~~
- ~~(3) amino group;~~
- ~~(4) nitro group;~~
- ~~(5) cyano group;~~
- ~~(6) optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl group;~~
- ~~(7) optionally substituted C₂₋₆ alkenyl group;~~
- ~~(8) optionally substituted C₂₋₆ alkynyl group;~~
- ~~(9) C₆₋₁₄ aryl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C₁₋₆ alkyl group, mono or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl amino group, C₆₋₁₄ aryl group, mono or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl amino group, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkoxy-C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl group, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl carbamoyl group, mono or di-C₆₋₁₄ aryl~~

~~carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-sulfamoyl group;~~

~~(10) C_{6-14} -aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from halogen-atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C_{1-6} -alkyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-amino group, C_{6-14} -aryl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-amino group, C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy- C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkylthio group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfinyl group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-sulfamoyl group;~~

~~(11) C_{7-16} -aralkyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from halogen-atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C_{1-6} -alkyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-amino group, C_{6-14} -aryl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-amino group, C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy- C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkylthio group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfinyl group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-sulfamoyl group;~~

~~(12) heterocyclic group (preferably furyl, pyridyl, thienyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl) optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from halogen-atom, hydroxy group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, optionally halogenated C_{1-6} -alkyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-amino group, C_{6-14} -aryl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-amino group, C_{3-8} -cycloalkyl group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkoxy- C_{1-6} -alkoxy group, C_{1-6} -alkylthio group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfinyl group, C_{1-6} -alkylsulfonyl group, optionally esterified carboxyl group, carbamoyl group, thiocarbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-carbamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-carbamoyl group, sulfamoyl group, mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-sulfamoyl group and mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-sulfamoyl group;~~

~~(13) mono- or di- C_{1-6} -alkyl-amino group;~~

~~(14) mono- or di- C_{6-14} -aryl-amino group;~~

~~(15) mono- or di- C_{7-16} -aralkyl-amino group;~~

~~(16) N- C_{1-6} -alkyl-N- C_{6-14} -aryl-amino group;~~

- ~~(17) N-C₁₋₆-alkyl-N-C₇₋₁₆-aralkyl-amino group;~~
- ~~(18) C₃₋₈-cycloalkyl group;~~
- ~~(19) optionally substituted C₁₋₆-alkoxy group;~~
- ~~(20) C₁₋₆-alkylthio group;~~
- ~~(21) C₁₋₆-alkylsulfinyl group;~~
- ~~(22) C₁₋₆-alkylsulfonyl group;~~
- ~~(23) optionally esterified carboxyl group;~~
- ~~(24) C₁₋₆-alkyl-carbonyl group;~~
- ~~(25) C₃₋₈-cycloalkyl-carbonyl group;~~
- ~~(26) C₆₋₁₄-aryl-carbonyl group;~~
- ~~(27) carbamoyl group;~~
- ~~(28) thiocarbamoyl group;~~
- ~~(29) mono- or di-C₁₋₆-alkyl-carbamoyl group;~~
- ~~(30) mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄-aryl-carbamoyl group;~~
- ~~(31) mono- or di-5 to 7-membered heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group;~~
- ~~(32) sulfamoyl group;~~
- ~~(33) mono- or di-C₁₋₆-alkyl-sulfamoyl group;~~
- ~~(34) mono- or di-C₆₋₁₄-aryl-sulfamoyl group;~~

Xa is a bond or a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 5 atom(s),

Xb is (CH₂)_n wherein n is 1 or 2,

Xc is O,

X = -O-, -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, or -CH₂CH₂CH₂-, and

R¹ is a hydroxy group or C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy group,

~~provided that~~

~~[6-(4-biphenyl)methoxy-2-tetralin]acetic acid;~~

~~methyl [6-(4-biphenyl)methoxy-2-tetralin]acetate;~~

~~[7-(4-biphenyl)methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-oxo-3-quinoline]acetic acid; and~~

~~methyl [7-(4-biphenyl)methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-oxo-3-quinoline]acetate are excluded,~~

or a salt thereof.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein the cyclic group represented by Ar is ~~an aromatic hydrocarbon~~ a phenyl group which optionally is substituted by said 1 to 5 substituent(s).

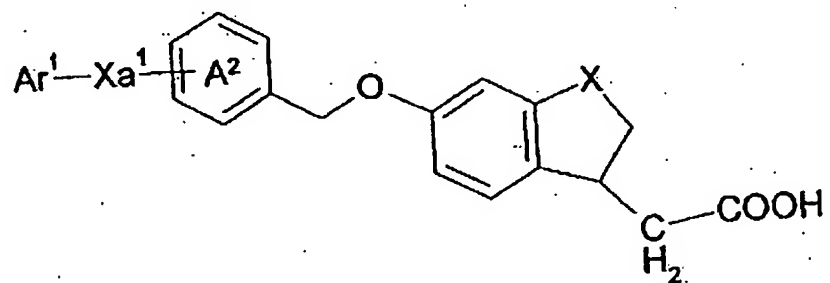
4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein Xb is -CH₂-.

7-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is a hydroxy group.

13. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1, which is represented by the formula:

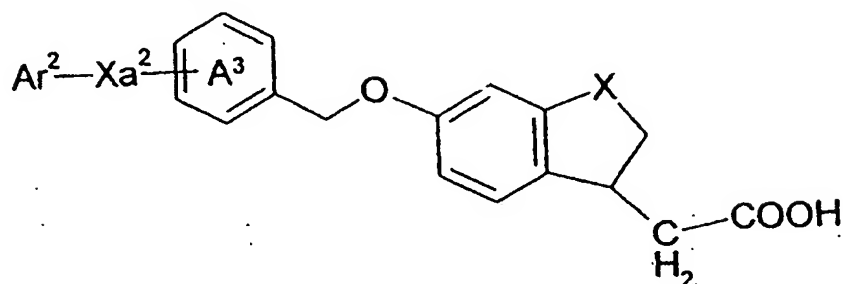


wherein Ar¹ is phenyl group or indanyl group, each of which optionally is substituted by said 1 to 5 substituent(s).

Xa¹ is a bond or a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 5 atom(s), and

ring A² is benzene ~~which optionally is substituted by said 1 to 5 substituent(s).~~

14. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1, which is represented by the formula:



wherein Ar^2 is thiazolyl group which optionally is substituted by said 1 to 5 substituent(s),
 Xa^2 is a bond ~~or a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 5 atom(s)~~, and
ring A^3 is benzene ~~which optionally is substituted by said 1 to 5 substituent(s)~~.

15. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 with a pharmacologically acceptable carrier.

16-23. (Cancelled)